The Advancing Academic Advising Project (3AP)

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Presented by:
Brian Ingoldsby
Senior Project Manager
**Project Rationale**

**UTM students** see significant opportunities to enhance their academic advising experiences.

**UTM staff** have echoed students, identifying room to improve advising through enhancing: capacity; training; collaboration; and communication.

**UTM retention and graduation rates** lag behind those for other divisions.
- **6-year graduation rates***:
  - ARTSC – 81.5%
  - UTSC – 74.0%
  - UTM – 69.2%

**Student success research** consistently points to academic advising as one of the most significant pathways through which institutions may influence students’ success and retention.

*6-year graduation rate for 2016 academic year, as identified on Cohort Retention, Graduation & Inactive Rates Dashboard (Tableau Server).
Four decades of research about student persistence...have identified academic advising as the vital link in the retention equation.

Jayne Drake
Former Vice Dean for Academic Affairs, Temple University
Past President, NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising

Academic advising should be an integral part of the first-year experience, not an adjunct to it. …Quite simply, good advising should not be left to chance.

Vincent Tinto
Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Syracuse University
Strategic Alignment
Project Goals

1. Identify a goal state for UTM’s academic advising program

Timeline: Spring 2024

Our goal state must:

- maximize students’ learning, wellbeing, belonging, and academic progress;
- center equity and inclusion;
- implement evidence-based approaches that steward our community resources;
- build on a foundation of innovation and collaboration; and
- enjoy widespread leadership and community support.
Project Goals

2. Develop an implementation strategy

Timeline: Dependent on goal state

Our implementation plan must:

- support student and staff success;
- consider institutional constraints; and
- enjoy widespread leadership and community support.
3. Engage the UTM community

Timeline: Ongoing

Our project must:

- Enable ongoing community member involvement; and
- Support community members' learning, development and change readiness.
Senior Leadership

Alexandra Gillespie  
Vice-President and Principal  
Executive Sponsor

Anuar Rodrigues  
Executive Director, Strategy  
Executive Steering Committee Member

Nicholas Rule  
Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean  
Executive Steering Committee Member

Mark Overton  
Dean of Student Affairs and Assistant Principal, Student Services  
Executive Steering Committee Member
Project Team Members

Brian Ingoldsby
Senior Project Manager
Project Management Office

Sandra Ngan
Senior Project Manager
Project Management Office

Felicity Morgan
Director, Career Centre
UTM Career Centre

Jessica Silver
Director, Student Engagement
Centre for Student Engagement

Professor Pascal Michelucci
Department of Language Studies

Sharon Marjadsingh
Academic Advisor
and Program Administrator
Department of Historical Studies

Svitlana Frunchak
Assistant Registrar,
Academic Advising Services
Office of the Registrar

Olha Fihol
Assistant Registrar,
Registrarial Services
Office of the Registrar
Project Timeline and Structure

Advancing Academic Advising Project
- Recommendations Sub-Project
- Implementation Planning Sub-Project

Implementation Projects

2024
- Fall
- Winter
- Summer
- Fall
- Winter
- Summer
It is hard to imagine any academic support function that is more important to student success and institutional productivity than advising.

George Kuh
Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus, Indiana University
Founding Director, National Survey of Student Engagement

Questions?

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